



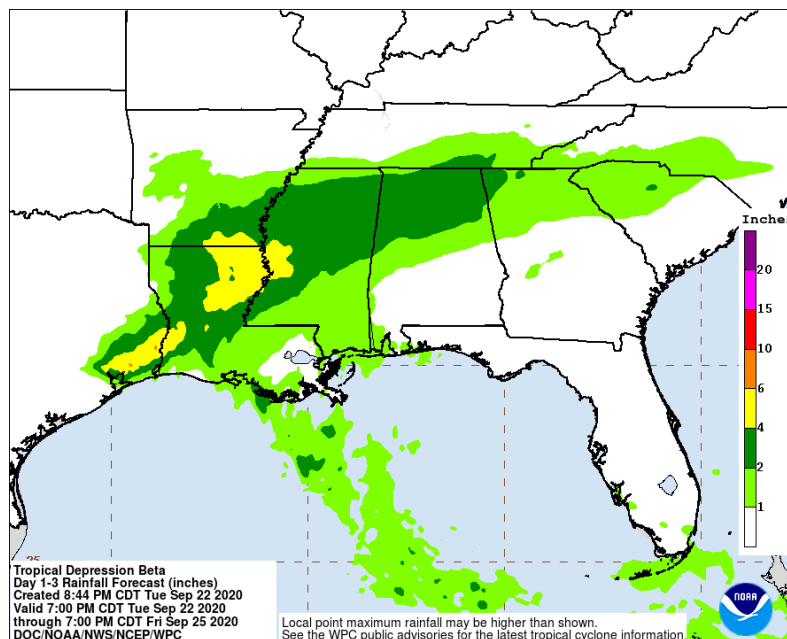
Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	20-0014 September Tropical Weather
Date	September 23, 2020
Time	0800
Operational Period	September 22 - September 23, 2020
Report Number	4

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	2,3,6
DDCs Active	17, 20

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: Tropical Storm Beta made landfall around 10 pm Monday night. Since then it has dropped various amounts of rain in the areas around Houston. On Tuesday night the storm was downgraded and renamed Post Tropical Cyclone Beta producing storm like conditions over portions of the southeast Texas Coast.



Beta continues northeastward motion bringing heavy rainfall from Eastern Texas into the lower Mississippi river valley.

Summary of 400 am CDT 0900 UTC information

Location 29.5n 95.0w

About 30 mi 45 km ESE of Houston Texas

About 70 mi 115 km WSW of Port Arthur Texas

Maximum sustained winds 30 mph 45 km/h

Present movement ENE or 60 degrees at 9 mph 15 km/h

Minimum central pressure 1007 mb 29.74 inches

WATCHES AND WARNINGS

There are Flash Flood Watches currently in effect across Southeast Texas and Southern Louisiana.

DISCUSSION AND OUTLOOK

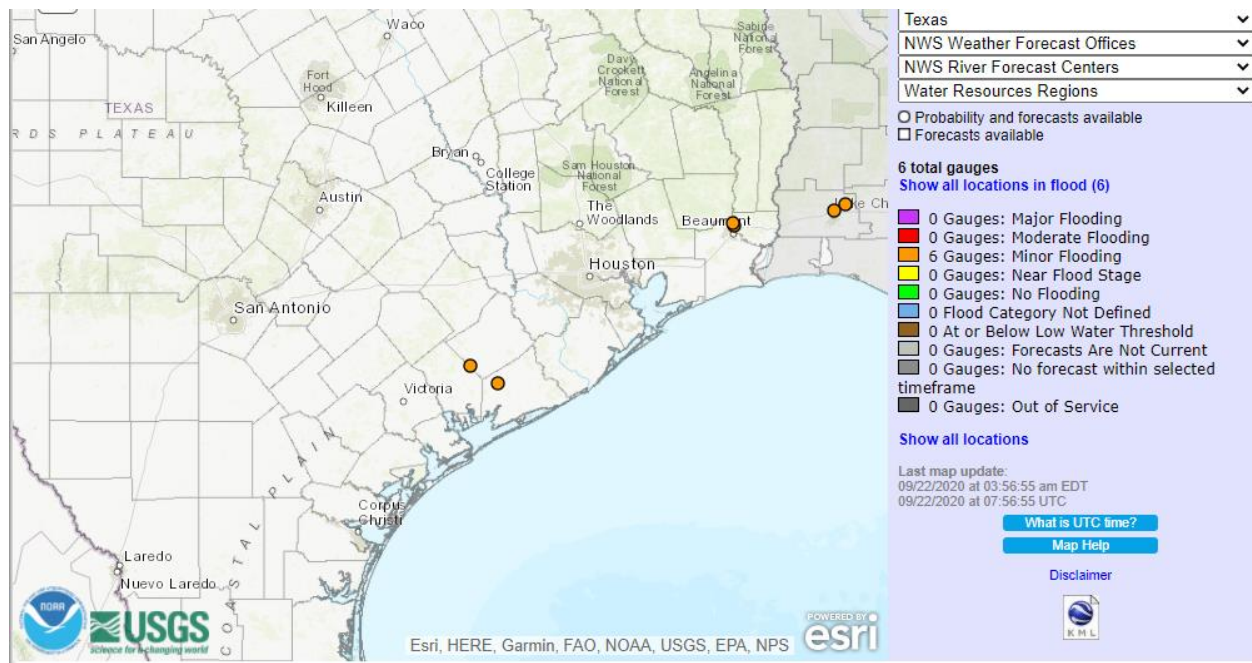
At 400 AM CDT (0900 UTC), the center of Post-Tropical Cyclone Beta was located near latitude 29.5 North, longitude 95.0 West. The post-tropical cyclone is moving toward the east-northeast near 9 mph (15 km/h) and this motion is expected to shift more toward the northeast during the next 48 hours. Maximum sustained winds are near 30 mph (45 km/h) with higher gusts. Slow weakening is forecast during the next 48 hours. The estimated minimum central pressure is 1007 mb (29.74 inches).

HAZARDS AFFECTING LAND RAINFALL: For the upper Texas coast, additional rainfall of 3 to 5 inches with isolated storm totals up to 15 inches is expected through Wednesday afternoon. Significant urban flooding will continue as well as minor to isolated moderate river flooding. Flash flooding will remain possible through Wednesday afternoon.

Rainfall totals of 2 to 5 inches are expected east into the Lower Mississippi Valley, portions of the Tennessee Valley, and the southern Appalachians through the end of the week. Flash and urban flooding is possible, as well as isolated minor river flooding on smaller rivers.

SURF: Swells generated by a combination of Beta and a stationary front over the northern Gulf of Mexico will continue from the Upper Coast of Texas to the Western Florida Panhandle during the next couple of days. These swells are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.

Local Flood Gauges



On 9/21/20, Governor Abbott issued a Disaster Declaration for 29 Texas counties in response to Tropical Storm Beta. Counties included in the Disaster Declaration include Aransas, Bee, Bexar, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Liberty, Live Oak, Matagorda, Nueces, Orange, Refugio, Sabine, San Augustine, San Patricio, Shelby, Travis, Victoria, and Wharton.

Texans are urged to follow these flood preparedness and safety tips during severe weather events:

Know types of flood risk in your area. Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center for information here: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Build an emergency supply kit. For more information on how to build a kit, visit: <https://www.ready.gov/kit>

Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy. Homeowner's policies do not cover flooding. It typically takes up to 30 days for a policy to go into effect so the time to buy is well before a disaster. Get flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Create password-protected digital copies.

Protect your property. Move valuables to higher levels. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves. Consider a sump pump with a battery.

Be extremely cautious of any water on roads or in creeks, streams, storm drains, or other areas – never attempt to cross flowing streams or drive across flooded roadways and always observe road barricades placed for your protection. Remember, Turn Around Don't Drown.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 14 Lufkin:

Jasper County: Jasper County has submitted a disaster declaration on 9/21/20.

DDC 15 – Beaumont: (Includes: Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties)

DDC 15 is at activation level III.

Jefferson County:

City of Port Arthur submitted a disaster declaration. The mayor of Port Arthur issued a voluntary evacuation order for Sabine Pass and Pleasure Island on 9/20/20.

DDC 16A – Houston: (Includes: Chambers and Harris Counties)

[Houston metro transit company will resume its normal schedule this morning.](#)

DDC 16A is at activation level III.

Chambers County: Chambers County issued a disaster declaration and a voluntary evacuation for low lying and flood prone areas on September 19.

Harris County: City of Seabrook issued a voluntary evacuation on 9/19/20.

City of Nassau Bay issued a voluntary evacuation on 9/19/20.

The City of Brookside Village Fire Department had a water rescue at the intersection of S. Sam Houston and Telephone Road on 9/21/20.

The City of Houston Fire Department completed 20 Evacuations from flooded vehicles.

DDC 16B – Texas City (Includes: Brazoria and Galveston Counties)

DDC 16B is at activation level II.

Brazoria County: Brazoria County issued a disaster declaration and a voluntary evacuation order.

City of Clute issued a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

City of Freeport issued a disaster declaration on 9/20/20.

Main Roads into Surfside were re-opened.

Galveston County: Galveston County Judge issued a disaster declaration and ordered a Voluntary evacuation of the Bolivar Peninsula on 9/19/20

TxDOT Ferry operations at Galveston – Bolivar Peninsula have reopened on a limited basis. These operations are being closely monitored by TxDOT and USCG to ensure the safety of the public. The operation will stop at 7:00 pm and are expected to resume at daylight.

One person was evacuated by a High-Profile Vehicle

Dickinson ISD, Friendswood ISD, Galveston ISD, Santa Fe ISD and Texas City ISD will be closed on 9/23/20.

Bolivar Peninsula - State Highway 87 is closed due to flooding.

DDC 16C – Conroe (includes Liberty, Montgomery and Walker)

DDC 16C is at activation level III.

DDC 16D – Rosenberg (Includes: Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda and Wharton Counties)

DDC 16D is at activation level II.

Matagorda County: The FM 457 swing bridge in Sargent and Canal Drive were re-opened. The following roads are closed due to water on roadway: County Road (CR) 238, CR 209, and CR 2031.

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties)

DDC 20 reduced its activation level to level III.

Live Oak County: Live Oak County EOC is at activation level III.

Nueces County: Nueces County EOC is at activation level III. Padre Bali RV Park and IB McGee RV Park were evacuated. Nueces County issued a disaster declaration 9/20/20. Nueces County Beaches are closed through Wednesday, 9/23/20.

City of Corpus Christi:

The City is restricting vehicle access to Gulf beaches due to dangerous conditions caused by Tropical Storm Beta as it approaches the Texas and Louisiana coasts. North Beach and Flour Bluff Streets are closed.

Access road closures are effective immediately and remain in effect until Wednesday, 9/23/20 at 8:00 a.m. If the water has not receded, the restriction may be extended.

Restricted vehicle access locations are Gulf beach Access Roads 2, 3, 3A, Newport, Zahn and Whitecap. The National Weather Service advises dangerous beach conditions and rip currents. Pedestrians are allowed but not encouraged. Bay beach conditions include North Beach experiencing flooding and McGee Beach will be impacted by storm surge.

Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation Beach Operations crews are reporting large swells, extremely strong rip currents, and flooding of area Gulf beaches. The public is urged to take precautions by staying off area beaches to not risk injury during the storm surge. Beach closures have been coordinated with the Texas General Land Office.

The latest forecast of Tropical Storm Beta can be found at the National Weather Service Website: <https://www.weather.gov/crp/>

City of Corpus Christi EOC is at activation level III.

The Port of Corpus Christi is at activation level II.

San Patricio County: San Patricio County EOC is at activation level II. Sandbags/coordinating with Nueces County.

DDC 21 – Weslaco (Includes: Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy Counties)

Cameron County: The City of Brownsville submitted a disaster declaration and letter to the governor on 9/19/20

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson and Victoria Counties)

Tide levels are still high in Port O'Conner and will be slow to recede. Heaviest rainfall amounts were received in Eastern Victoria County near Inez. Garcita's Creek reached full bank stage at 12 feet. Some areas will remain under Coastal Flood Advisories, Flash Flood Watches, and Small Craft Advisories.

DDC 17 reduced its activation level to level III.

Safe Haven for other state agency's marine crafts are secured at TXDOT and Victoria County Airport.

- TXDPS TMU – TXDOT facility x5 craft
- TPW Fisheries – Airport x3 craft and 2 trailers
- TPW Game Warden – Airport x4 craft
- GLO – x1 craft, x2 gear trailers

In direct contact with TTF1 Boat Squad team leader, and are prepared to assist and find lodging locally as needed.

Calhoun County: Calhoun County issued a voluntary evacuation. Calhoun County issued a disaster declaration on 9/21/20.

Calhoun County reduced its activation level to level IV.

DeWitt County: DeWitt County reduced its activation level to level IV.

Goliad County: Goliad County reduced its activation level to level IV.

Gonzales County: Gonzales County reduced its activation level to level IV.

Jackson County: Jackson County reduced its activation level to level IV.

Lavaca County: Lavaca County reduced its activation level to level IV.

Victoria County: Victoria County and the City of Victoria reduced their activation levels to level IV.

The Texas Zoo in the City of Victoria will be closed due to flood expectations.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff continuing receive and process disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as disseminating severe weather messages, preparing Snapshots and the State SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the alternate State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners to assist with any unmet needs and resources.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): TX-TF1 SAR resources have been deployed for the 20-0014 September Weather Events. Overhead Team, Urban Search and Rescue Type-3, TX-TF1, TX-TF2 SWR Boat Squads and SWR Manager.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): The TFS currently has eight personnel committed to Tropical Storm Beta response to the Texas Division of Emergency Management. Response activities include Incident Management Team support, STAR processing, and situation reports.






Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD Emergency Management and Senior Leadership staff are closely monitoring Tropical Storm Beta and are prepared to support the State with TPWD personnel and resources to support a need at the State Operations Center and in the field.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS has provided a SOC Liaison to support 24-hour operations as the SOC responds to Tropical Storm Beta, [which was downgraded to a tropical depression after making landfall along the Texas coast.](#)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT crews are prepared to respond to any highway related issues and is standing by to help with any state agency request. There are 10 High Profile Vehicles on standby in Houston and 10 in Bryan. [There are 40 flooded road locations resulting in three closures.](#)

Texas Military Department (TMD): Texas Military Department has activated 177 personnel in support of September Tropical Weather response including 3x Ground Transportation Companies and 40 high Profile Vehicles (HPVs).

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): Texas Department of Public Safety has rostered and staged Texas Highway Patrol (THP), Aircraft Operations Division (AOD), and THP Tactical Marine Unit (TMU) personnel and equipment.

AMBULANCES	BOATS	BUSES	AIRCRAFT	HIGH-PROFILE
				
20 Ambulances 4 Ambus	70	6	4	63

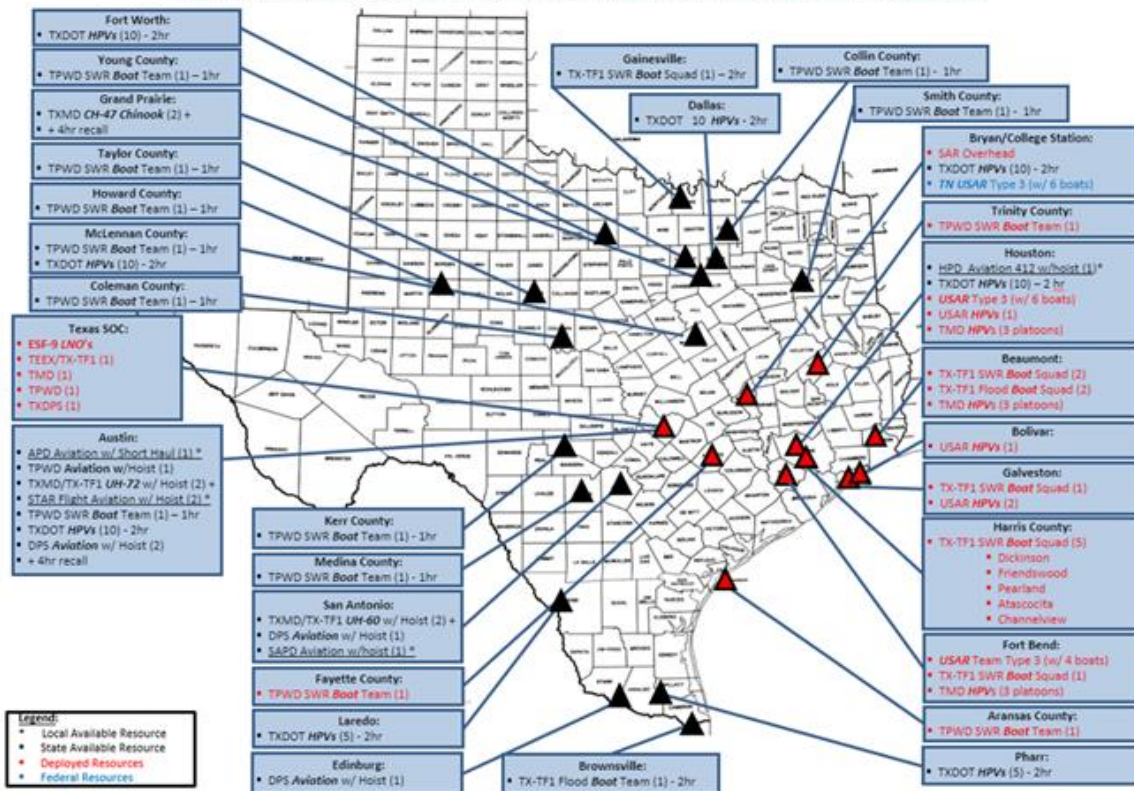
Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TEEX	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Austin
TEEX	HPV	3	1	Activated	Galveston
TEEX	HPV	3	1	Activated	Bolivar
TEEX	HPV	3	1	Activated	Houston
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	18	6	Activated	Beaumont
TEEX	Flood Boat Squad	12	4	Activated	Beaumont
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	12	4	Activated	Harris County
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	12	4	Activated	Galveston

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TEEX	SWR Boat Squad	12	4	Activated	Fort Bend
TEEX	Type 3 Water Capable	46	6	Activated	Fort Bend
TEEX	Type 3 Water Capable	40	6	Activated	Houston
TEEX	SAR Overhead	13		Assigned	College Station
TFS	TFS/ ESF 4 Rep	3		Assigned	Austin/SOC
TFS	TFS EOC Support	3		Assigned	College Station
TFS	Planning Module	2		Assigned	DDEOC 17
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin/SOC
TPWD	Shallow Draft Vessels		6	Assigned	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Airboats		1	Assigned	Lake Livingston
TPWD	Game Wardens	26	26	Activated	Galveston/Houston
TPWD	Airboats		7	Activated	Galveston/Houston
TPWD	Shallow Draft Vessels		4	Activated	Lake Livingston
TPWD	Game Wardens	43	43	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Airboats		8	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Shallow Draft Boat		5	Activated	Galveston/Houston
TPWD	Swift Water Boat		1	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Swift Water Boat		1	Activated	Houston Galveston
TPWD	Rescue Helicopter	2	1	Activated	Austin
TPWD	State Park Police	12		Activated	Lake Livingston
TMD	BN Mission Command	12	4	Assigned	Temple
TMD	BN Mission Command	24	7	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQs	11	5	Assigned	Huntsville
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQs	12	6	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Company HQs	12	8	Assigned	Victoria
TMD	Ground Transportation Companies	40	13	Assigned	Huntsville

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TMD	Ground Transportation Companies	30	13	Assigned	Houston
TMD	Ground Transportation Companies	30	18	Assigned	Victoria
TMD	SOC Logs Vetter	5		Assigned	Austin
TMD	TXTF-1 LNO	1		Assigned	College Station
DSHS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Austin
DSHS	SWX Package	84	36	Standby	
DSHS	MIST	4	4	Standby	
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Austin
TxDOT	HPV Team	20	10	Standby	Houston
TxDOT	HPV	20	10	Standby	Bryan
TXDPS	Helicopter with hoist	9	3	Assigned	Austin, San Antonio, and Edinburg
TXDPS	Hoist Rescue Swimmers	2		Assigned	Austin
TXDPS	TMU Boat	2	1	Assigned	Rockport
TXDPS	TMU Boat	4	2	Assigned	Port Lavaca
TXDPS	TMU Boat fuel trailers	2	2	Assigned	Southeast & South Texas
TXDPS	THP Commissioned personnel and vehicles	520	18	Assigned	

SAR Resources 09-23-2020 0300 hours

This map depicts a snapshot in time. Resource locations are fluid based on response needs. Use normal resource request process for SAR assistance.



FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Readiness Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: <https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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